



ATHOMEIN
COLLEGE



February 2010

Volume 6

1) Complete **FAFSA** form **BEFORE March 15th**. Worksheets are available at

www.fafsa.ed.gov

*****It is HIGHLY recommended that you complete the FAFSA online as soon as possible.**

2) Complete the **TAP** application as soon as you complete your FAFSA form.

3) If you are applying to private colleges you might be required to complete the **CSS Profile**. For a complete list of participating colleges www.collegeboard.com and click on CSS Profile under the student section

4) **Contact colleges** to confirm they have received all necessary application materials.

5) If you need help, **ASK FOR IT!!!**

SENIOR PREP NEWS

Important news, dates, and tips regarding **YOUR** future

Focus on Financial Aid



Complete FAFSA form NOW! - ALL FAFSA forms should be completed NO LATER than March 5th!!! Remember, financial aid is distributed on a first come, first served basis - you don't want to miss out! If you need help - PLEASE SEE your college advisor ASAP!



Complete the TAP application- Once you have submitted your FAFSA application online, you should receive an email from HESC.org. This link will take you to www.tapweb.org where you will be able to complete your TAP application online. The TAP application has only one college choice listed (usually the first New York school you listed on the FAFSA application). You will be able to update this school choice once you make your final decision. If you have questions regarding your TAP application, go to www.hesc.org or contact them directly at 1-866-431-4372.

**Remember: TAP money is only for those students planning to attend college in the state of New York. However, ALL students should fill out the application as a back up.*



Have you mailed your mid term grades (January 2010)?- make sure ALL of the SUNY & Private schools to which you applied receive a copy of your mid term grades. Some private colleges have their own forms that must be completed as well. Any additional information or updates you would like the college to know about should be sent at this time. This includes updated SAT scores, SAT subject scores, letters of recommendation, or any awards or honors you have received since submitting your application.

*** MANY COLLEGES WILL MAKE ADMISSION DECISIONS BASED ON YOUR MID-TERM GRADES...THEY MUST RECEIVE THESE ASAP!!!**

Warning!!!

You should only file your FAFSA using the official **FREE** website www.fafsa.ed.gov. There are lots of scams out there... don't be fooled. Use the official website.

Printable FAFSA worksheets are available at

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/fafsaws90c.pdf>



This publication is made possible through a federal grant awarded by the NYS Higher Education Services Corporation to CUNY's College Access and Success Program, the administrative agency for New York State's College Access Challenge Grant Program.

www.hesc.org

Federal Student Aid: How To Apply

Step 1

Get a PIN, a personal identification number. A PIN lets you apply, "sign" your online FAFSA, make corrections, and more- all online! You must apply for a PIN for YOU and one for your Parent/Guardian
Go to www.pin.ed.gov

Step 2

Collect the documents needed to apply: income tax returns, W2 forms (and other records of income or benefits). *If you have not completed tax returns at the time of application, simply **ESTIMATE** the information and update the changes later.

Step 3

Complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) as soon after January 1st as you can. Many colleges have deadlines, so be aware. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov

Step 4

Are you applying to a college or university in New York State? Remember, at the end of the FAFSA application there will be a **RED prompt** button to complete the TAP form- make sure you do this **IMMEDIATELY!!!** If you do not complete the TAP form at this prompt, you will have to wait for the paper form to be sent to you by mail.

Step 5

Review your SAR (Student Aid Report)-the result of your FAFSA application. If necessary, make corrections and resubmit your SAR for reprocessing. *You will receive your SAR by mail or you can access it directly from www.fafsa.ed.gov

Step 6

If you are selected for verification, your college's financial aid office will ask you to submit tax returns and other financial documents. Be sure to meet the college's deadline, or you will not be eligible to receive federal student aid.

Step 7

In April you will begin to receive financial aid packages from various colleges to which you have been accepted. Review the award letters to compare amounts and types of aid being offered.
*Contact the college financial aid office if you have any questions about the award being offered.

\$ Scholarship REMINDERS \$

For how many
scholarships
have YOU app?

~~~

The more  
scholarships  
you apply for,  
the better  
chance you  
have of  
winning FREE  
money!

~~~

Don't lose
steam now!

Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF)- full & partial scholarships awarded to students of Hispanic heritage. Eligibility requirements: be a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident, have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and must apply for federal financial aid using the FAFSA form. Various scholarships available at <http://www.hsf.net/Scholarships.aspx?id=426> (Deadline dates vary depending on scholarship).

Carolina Rice Scholarship- \$2,000 scholarships awarded to high school seniors who are attending a New York or New Jersey high school; Social Security Number required. Students must submit a 250 word essay on "What will my college degree say about me?" All entries must be received before February 16, 2010. For an application go to www.carolinarice.com/scholarship

Random House Creative Writing Scholarship- earn up to \$10,000 for your creative writing works!!!

This competition is only available to NYC high school seniors! Download and application at <http://www.randomhouse.com/creativewriting> . Application deadline February 12th, 2010 for poetry/ spoken word/ fiction/ drama and personal essays/memoirs and March 15, 2010, for graphic novels.

Eagle Foundation Scholarship- \$10,000 scholarships awarded for four years to recipients. Students must have a high school average of at least 85%, have a combined score of at least 1800 on the Math, Critical Reading & Writing sections of the SAT, and have been recognized for the leadership positions they have held at their high school and in their community. Students must require financial assistance in order to attend college. Applications are available online at <http://www.theeaglefoundation.com/application.php> . Application deadline April 1, 2010.

Milton Fisher Scholarship- \$5,000 scholarship per academic year for up to 4 years awarded to high school students who display evidence of innovative and creative problem solving. Applications available at www.rbffoundation.org and are due before April 12, 2010.

Kaye Scholars Program- FULL Scholarship to students planning to attend City College- must be majoring in the Humanities and Arts (American Studies, Art, Asian Studies, Literature, English, Foreign Language, History, Jewish Studies, Media, Communication Arts, Music, Philosophy or Theater). Essay, two letters of recommendation, financial aid forms required. In addition to the regular application to City College, students must submit the general scholarship application, which is available at <http://www.ccny.cuny.edu/kaye/index.htm> . Once your scholarship application is submitted, you must notify by email the Kaye Scholars Office at kayescholars@ccny.cuny.edu, so that your application can be tracked. Application deadline April 3, 2010.

DECA Scholarships- Over \$200,000 in scholarships from DECA's corporate partners. Over 14 individual scholarships available for DECA students (these are students studying marketing, management and entrepreneurship in business, finance and hospitality). Application booklets available at www.deca.org/schol.html Deadline February 10, 2010.

Jackie Robinson Foundation Scholarship- \$7,500 scholarship awarded to minority students showing leadership potential and demonstrating financial need to attend an accredited 4-year college or university of their choice. Students must have a minimum combined SAT score of 1000 on the math and critical reading sections. Applications available online at http://www.jackierobinson.org/apply/app_gen.php . Application deadline March 15, 2010.

•**Gordon A. Rich Memorial Foundation (GAR) Scholarship**- \$10,000 scholarship awarded for four years. Students must be a dependent child of a full-time employee of a financial services organization (this includes banks, investment banks, insurance companies, credit card companies, etc.) Must have at least an 83% overall average, plan to enroll in a full-time four year college, and demonstrate financial need. Applications available at www.gordonrich.org/html/index.html . Deadline February 16, 2010.

•**SAMMY 2010 "Scholar Athlete Milk Mustache of the Year"**- \$7,500 scholarship awarded to 25 students. Applicants will be judged on the following criteria: academic performance (35%), athletic excellence (35%), leadership (15%), community service (10%) and milk experience (5%). Applications will only be accepted online at www.bodybymilk.com Deadline March 5, 2010.

•**Zonta Club of New York Young Women in Public Affairs Award**- \$500 scholarship awarded to outstanding young women interested in public affairs/community service. Applications available from your college counselor or they can be downloaded at: http://www.zonta.org/site/PageServer?pagename=zi_issues_programs_ywpa_application Deadline March 1, 2010.

•**Financial Service Center of New York Rewarding Young Leaders in Our Community Program**- \$5,000 scholarships awarded to students who will return to their communities and contribute to improving the quality of life for all New Yorkers. Students will be selected based upon leadership skills at school and in the community (contributing at least 150 valuable hours of volunteer service in each year of high school) and academic achievement. Applications available at <http://www.fscny.org/scholar.htm> and you must include a 250 word essay explaining your most rewarding experience through your community service involvement. Deadline March 26, 2010.

•**Florida A & M University African American Women Scholarship**- \$4,000-\$10,000 scholarships awarded to African American Women entering college in the fall of 2009 majoring in the field of computer technology. For more information, go to <http://www.famu.edu/?a=headlines&p=display&news=602> or contact Dr. Black via email at jblack@cis.famu.edu Deadline August 1, 2010.

•**Robert C. Byrd Scholarship**- \$1,500 per year scholarships awarded to high school seniors who can demonstrate academic achievement. Scholarships awarded based on combined SAT scores and overall GPA. For more information, or to obtain an application, go to <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/kiap/scholarships/documents/2010RobtByrdBulletin.pdf> . Application deadline March 1, 2010.

•**Friends of Senator Jack Perry Migrant Scholarship**- scholarship to honor migrant farm- worker students from New York State. Students must be currently enrolled in a New York State high school and present financial need. For additional information and an application, go to <http://www.migrant.net/migrant/sch-perry.htm> or contact the Geneseo Migrant Center at 1-800-245-5681.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS! Scholarships regardless of your immigration status in the United States!

We have a wonderful resource for YOU. Check out:

www.maldef.org

***NO** Social Security Number Required

***NO** Legal Residency Required

***NO** U. S. Citizenship Required



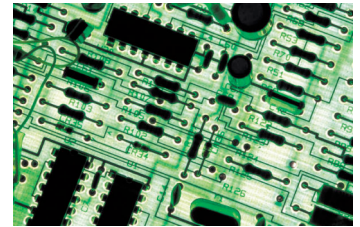
NEW \$cholarships

- **Live Out Loud Scholarship**- \$2,500 scholarship awarded to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender youth. Winners selected based on personal interview, 2 letters of recommendation, community service involvement, financial need and future goals. Applications available online at <http://www.liveoutloud.info/index.html> Deadline March 8, 2010.
- **Time Warner Cable Scholarship Fund**- \$3,000 scholarship awarded to students based on academic record (3.2 GPA or higher), leadership, participation in school, community activities and goals. Parents MUST BE Time Warner customers!!! Applications available at <http://www.timewarnercable.com/nynj/about/community/scholarships.html> All materials must be received before April 1, 2010.
- **Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program**- \$10,000 scholarship awarded to students planning to attend a 4 year college or university. Students must be nominated by someone 21 years or older (this could be a teacher, parent, neighbor, etc. All applications must be completed before March 15, 2010. For more information or to complete an application and nomination form, go to <https://www.scholarshipamerica.org/kohls> . All applications due March 15, 2010.
- **Rewarding Young Leaders in Our Community Scholarship**- \$4,000 scholarship awarded to students who have demonstrated academic achievement or improvement, leadership in their school, involvement in their community, contributing at least 30 valuable hours of volunteer service each year of high school. Essay required. Applications available from your college advisor or online at <http://www.fscny.org/scholar.htm> Deadline March 26, 2010..
- **2010 Seinfeld Scholarship Program**- Four year full-tuition scholarships awarded to students with a cumulative GPA of 85% or higher, students must attend a New York City high school in Manhattan and demonstrate financial need. Applications are available at <http://www.seinfeldscholars.com> . Deadline February 12, 21010.
- **2010 Student View Scholarship Program**- \$4,000 scholarship awarded to seniors planning to attend a four-year college. No SAT, essay, or application required. Simply log on to www.student-view.com and complete a 15-20 minute application survey about colleges in your area. Scholarship will be awarded randomly. Deadline April 22, 2010.
- **KFC Colonel's Scholarship**- \$20,000 awarded to high school seniors with entrepreneurial drive, strong perseverance and who demonstrate financial need. The program is about students' dreams and aspirations, and the perseverance to succeed. Students must apply online at <http://www.kfcscholars.org> Deadline February 10, 2010.
- **2010 YouthForce 2020 Scholarship/Internship**- \$8,000 scholarships awarded to students interested in pursuing a career in the building industry. Students must be accepted to an Engineering school program in Electrical, Mechanical, Civil Engineering, Construction Management or Architecture. Students must have a 80% or higher GPA, combined SAT score of 1600 or higher and complete a 350 word essay on "Why I want to pursue a career in the Building Industry". Application can be downloaded directly from <http://www.turnerconstruction.com/corporate/content.asp?d=3920> . Deadline May 3, 2010.
- **Teens for Alzheimer's Awareness College Scholarship**- \$5,000 scholarship awarded to students who are affected by Alzheimer's disease in their family or community. Application and essay questions available at http://www.afateens.org/about_new.html . Deadline February 15, 2010.

Queensborough Community College

National Science Foundation **\$cholarships** for students interested in Electronic Engineering Technology or Laser and Fiber Optics Engineering Technology

Students will be given \$6000 per year (for two years) in addition to any other awards or financial aid they receive. Students will receive individualized personal advisement, tutoring opportunities, career counseling, internships, trips to local companies, social activities, and the list goes on.



Interested students should contact Dr. Stuart Asser at 718-631-6207 for more information and to obtain an application.



The "Call Me MISTER" program is a collaboration between Clemson University, private, historically black colleges (Benedict College, Claflin University, and Morris College) and two-year technical colleges to recruit, train, certify and secure employment for minority males as elementary teachers in the public schools of South Carolina.

Procedures for admission to the "Call Me MISTER " program are as follows:

Apply for and be *accepted* into one of the participating colleges or universities at which the degree and teaching certificate will be earned

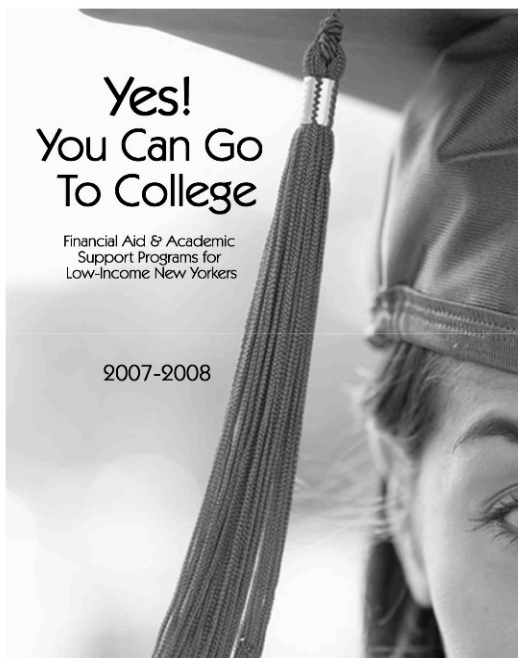
Complete the Call Me MISTER online application at

<http://www.clemson.edu/hehd/departments/education/research-service/callmemister/apply.html>

Submit the following items:

Two letters of recommendation: one (1) from a teacher, guidance counselor, or principal at the high school from which the diploma is earned and one (1) from a person of the student's choice who can express the student's involvement in the community and/or potential for entering the teaching profession.

An essay entitled, "Why I Want To Teach," which will address the student's motivation for entering the teaching profession and the contributions he hopes to make to the profession and to the community as a teacher



A great resource about FINANCIAL AID & ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAMS for Low-Income New Yorkers

Check out this AMAZING GUIDE at:

<http://www.lizkrueger.com/opportunityguide.pdf>

Don't miss out on GREAT INFORMATION!!!

Do You Need to Complete the CSS Profile?

Check the participating college and university list at

<http://profileonline.collegeboard.com/index.jsp>

Many private colleges REQUIRE prospective students to complete this online financial aid form **IN ADDITION to the FAFSA.**

Check the deadlines TODAY, as some colleges require this form to be submitted before March 1st.



SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS! Scholarships regardless of your immigration status in the United States!

We have a wonderful resource for YOU. Check out:

www.maldef.org

- ***NO** Social Security Number Required
- ***NO** Legal Residency Required
- ***NO** U. S. Citizenship Required





Ronald McDonald House Charities 2010 Scholarships

For more information and to download an application go to:
<http://rmhc.org/what-we-do/rmhc-u-s-scholarships>

The RMHC National Scholarship Program is comprised of 4 individual scholarship programs including:

- RMHC/ASIA
- RMHC/African American Future Achievers
- RMHC/HACER
- RMHC Scholars

Eligibility

To apply for the RMHC National Scholarships, students must...

- be a high school senior;
- be eligible to attend a two or four-year college or university
- be a legal U.S. resident
- reside in a participating local Ronald McDonald Chapter's geographic area;
- submit a complete application and all required documentation by the deadline.

Additional Eligibility Requirements

For each individual scholarship program the following are also required:

RMHC/ASIA -applicant must have at least one parent of Asian/Pacific-Islander heritage;

RMHC/African American Future Achievers - applicant must have at least one parent of African American or Black Caribbean heritage;

RMHC/HACER - applicant must have at least one parent of Hispanic heritage;

RMHC Scholars - ALL students may apply regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender, disability or national origin.

DEADLINE February 16, 2010

COLLEGE BOUND
STUDENT
ATHLETES...

YOU MUST SUBMIT
A NCAA Initial
Eligibility Clearinghouse
Application

If you are planning to participate in sports in college you are **REQUIRED** to submit this form!

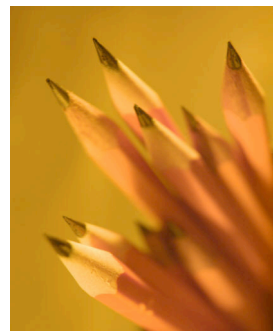
Fee Waivers are available from your College Advisor if you qualify

REGISTER TODAY!!!

www.ncaaclearinghouse.net



THE RANDOM HOUSE
Creative Writing
Competition
For NYC Public High
School Seniors



Enter your original graphic novel for
a chance to win a \$10,000 , \$5,000
or a \$2,500 SCHOLARSHIP!

For more information call
1-888-369-3434
or go to

www.worldofexpression.org

Deadline March 15, 2010

Check out our
Guide to Surviving the
COLLEGE INTERVIEW

Tips & Tricks...everything you need to know to be prepared on the last 5 pages!

College Goal Sunday

SUNDAY, FEB. 6th

Students and their families will get FREE help from financial aid professionals throughout New York City. Information will be available on scholarships and going to college. Refreshments will be served for everyone and there will be hundreds of dollars in scholarships awarded!

It's FREE!



Students must register in advance to attend! Go to
www.CollegeGoalSundayNY.com
and choose a location:

MANHATTAN 11:00-3:00PM

A. Philip Randolph HS
135 Street & Convent Ave.
NY, NY

BRONX 10:00-2:00PM

Lehman HS
3000 East Tremont Ave.
Bronx, NY

BROOKLYN 12:00-4:00PM

Medgar Evers College
1650 Bedford Ave
Brooklyn, NY

**Bilingual Counselors Available*

QUEENS 11:00-3:00PM

John Bowne HS
63-25 Main Street
Flushing, NY

NEW YORK'S COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY

The Online Financial Aid Application Event For New York Students



\$10,000 scholarship



The 2010 Seinfeld Scholarship Program

Overview

In 2000, Jerry Seinfeld and his family established The Seinfeld Scholarship Program after Jerry Seinfeld visited LaGuardia High School for the Performing Arts during PENCIL's 2000 Principal For A Day® event. Since then, The Seinfeld Family Foundation has provided scholarships to 163 public school students from throughout New York City. Recipients have attended prestigious colleges and universities across the country and have pursued a variety of majors.

PENCIL works in partnership with the Seinfeld Family Foundation to promote the program to schools in its network and coordinate the application process. Each year the scholarship program focuses on a particular borough. In 2010, the Seinfeld Scholarships will be awarded to seniors graduating from New York City public high schools located in **Manhattan**.

Through the Seinfeld Scholarship, recipients receive a four-year scholarship of up to \$10,000 to any college or university of the student's choice. The scholarship will cover any unmet need the students have, including books, room and board, tuition, fees etc. Students are chosen each year based upon the selection and eligibility criteria described below. Recipients are given a computer their first year of school and are given access to college prep programs, mentoring and service opportunities. The Seinfeld Scholarship is renewable annually for four years assuming the students uphold a good academic record.

Selection Criteria

The scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of academic achievement, financial need, and outstanding traits such as school and community service, creative expression, and leadership.

Eligibility

Applicants for the Seinfeld Scholarship **MUST** be:

- Legal Residents of New York City (Citizens or Alien Card holders)
- Graduating in June 2010 from a New York City public high school in Manhattan
- Graduating with a cumulative grade point average of not less than 85
- Planning to enroll, upon graduation, in a full-time course of study leading to a bachelor's degree at any accredited four-year college or university
- Candidates who have filed FAFSA forms
- Able to demonstrate financial need. Household income cannot exceed \$60,000.

Application Process

Interested students must postmark their application by **February 12, 2010**.

For more information, or to download an application go to

www.seinfeldscholars.com

all applications due by February 12th, 2010



SUNY Statewide Student Financial Aid Days **Saturday, February 27th, 2010**

Applying for financial aid? Let the financial aid professionals at SUNY campuses make it easier for you. **SUNY's Statewide Student Financial Aid Day** is offered as a service to all prospective college students and their families and is designed to answer questions and provide assistance regarding the financial aid application, types of aid available and the award process.

Hands-on assistance from SUNY financial aid professionals in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is required for all financial aid, including New York State assistance.

Hosted by the Metropolitan Recruitment Center
SUNY State College of Optometry
33 West 42nd St. - New York, NY

Register online at www.suny.edu/studentevents
or call **212-818-1204**

*Once you register, additional materials will be sent to you

Best of all it's FREE!!! Don't wait - register today!



THE NYC COLLEGE EXPERIENCE.
SIMPLIFIED.

ONE STOP ACCESS TO ALL NYC COLLEGES

-Centralized system to compare New York City's 110 colleges

-Snapshots of student life in NYC

-Connections to high-priority student resources including financial aid & housing

www.onecampusnyc.com



GRADUATING 2010 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

LIVE OUT LOUD

IS AWARDING 4 SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR \$2500!

LIVE OUT LOUD is granting scholarships to college-bound Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender high school seniors* who have a strong capacity to "Live Out Loud" and who demonstrate leadership skills at their school and in their community.

**APPLICATION
DEADLINE 03.8.10**

DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION AT:

WWW.LIVEOUTLOUD.INFO

QUESTIONS: INFO@LIVEOUTLOUD.INFO

OR 212.651.4220

**Scholarships will be awarded at
LIVE OUT LOUD's Spring Gala
on Monday, April 26th, 2010.**

*Applicants must be from the New York Tri-State Area (NY, CT, NJ)

Surviving the Interview

For many students, the most worrisome part of applying to college is the personal interview. It needn't be, especially if you are familiar with the two subjects most likely to be discussed: the college and you. Before each interview, read the college catalogue, your responses in the "Getting to Know Yourself" section, and your personal data sheet. Below are some tips to help you come through the experience like a pro.

- **Be on time!** If you are chronically late, allow for plenty of extra time.
- **Be yourself.** Don't try to be someone you are not.
- **Speak Clearly.** Don't mumble when asking or answering questions, and maintain eye contact.
- **Relax!** An interview is an exchange of information, not something you pass or fail. Your presence on the campus and your readiness to talk about yourself and your college plans are indications of your seriousness. The interview can help you determine if a particular college is the right place for you. The exchange of information and the impressions gained on both sides – yours and the interviewer's – should be meaningful.
- **Be prepared.** The interviewer may encourage you to "just talk", so you should be ready to discuss topics ranging from the very general ("Tell me about your school experience") to the very specific ("How do you feel about nuclear disarmament or capital punishment?")
- **Respond directly and articulately to questions.** Keep the "you knows" and "like" to a minimum – none if you can help it. It is perfectly all right to say "I don't know" or "I need to think about that" in response to a question. Be as natural, easy, and responsive as you can be.
- **Be familiar with your academic record.** This will enable you to answer general questions about your academic performance in high school and your scores on standardized tests – if asked.
- **Know your interests and your areas of strength.** Look over your list of extracurricular activities and be prepared to talk about them. Bring up and qualifications you have that may not be apparent from the application.
- **Have plausible explanations for any weaknesses in your record.** Remember, an explanation is different from an excuse.
- **Be prepared to discuss one or two books you have read.** Think about what they meant to you.
- **Be aware of current events.**
- **Thank the interviewer before you leave.**



PREPARING FOR AN INTERVIEW

Questions for Self-Analysis

The questions which follow can help you focus college selection and admission where it belongs: on you as an individual. You may feel embarrassed or self-conscious when you first consider these questions. However, an honest and thoughtful self-evaluation can reveal what you should look for in colleges and prepare you for statements you will be asked to make about yourself in essays and interviews when you apply to college. If you are willing to look seriously at yourself, you can find the colleges which are right for you and present yourself to them effectively.

Your goals and values

1. **What aspects of your high school years have you enjoyed the most?** Have you missed anything during this time? If you could live this period over again, would you do anything differently?
2. **What values are most important to you?** What do you care most about? What concerns occupy most of your energy, effort, and thoughts?
3. **How do you define success?** Are you satisfied with your accomplishments to date? What do you want to accomplish in the years ahead?
4. **What kind of person would you like to become?** Of your unique gifts and strengths, which would you most like to develop? What would you most like to change about yourself?
5. **Is there anything you have ever secretly wanted to do or be?** If you had a year to go anywhere and do whatever you wanted, how would you spend that year?
6. **What events or experiences have shaped your growth and way of thinking?**

Your education

7. What are your **academic interests**? Which courses have you enjoyed the most? Which courses have been most difficult for you?
8. What do you **choose to learn** when you can learn on your own? Consider interests pursued beyond class assignments: topics chosen for research papers, lab reports, independent projects, independent reading, school activities, job or volunteer work. What do your choices show about your interests and the way you like to learn?
9. **How do you learn best?** What methods of teaching and style of teaching engage your interest and effort the most?

10. How would you **describe your school**? Are learning and academic success respected there? Has your school environment encouraged you to develop your interests, talents, and abilities? Have you felt limited by your school environment in any way? What would you preserve or change about your school if you had the power and money to do so?
11. How much do you generally like to read, discuss issues, and exchange ideas? What has been your **most stimulating intellectual experience** in recent years?
12. How well **has your school prepared you for college**? In what areas of skill or knowledge do you feel confident? Do you feel inadequately prepared for college study? Have you been challenged by your courses?
13. Have you worked up to your potential in high school? **Is your academic record an accurate measure of your ability and potential**? Are your SAT scores? What do you consider the best measures of your potential for college work?
14. Are there any **outside circumstances** (in your recent experience or background) **which have interfered with your academic performance**? Consider such factors as: after-school job, home responsibilities or difficulties, excessive school activities, illness or emotional stress, parental pressure, English not spoken at home, problems of course scheduling or other factors which are unique to your recent experience or background.

Your activities and interests

15. What **activities do you most enjoy outside the daily routine** of school and other responsibilities? Which activities have meant the most to you? Looking back, would you have made different choices?
****Don't forget to include your participation in the Peter Jay Sharp College/SAT Prep Program.***
16. Do your **activities show any pattern of commitment, competence, or contribution**?
17. How would others describe **your role in your school or home community**? What do you consider your most significant contribution?
18. **After a long, hard day, what do you most enjoy doing**? What do you do for fun? For relaxation?



The world around you

19. How would you **describe your school, family, and community (neighborhood)**? How has your environment influenced your way of thinking? How have your interests and abilities been acknowledged or limited by your school and home?
20. **What do your parents and friends expect of you**? How have their expectations influenced the goals and standards you set for yourself? What pressures have you felt to conform?
21. What has been **the most controversial issue** in your school or community? How does the issue concern you? What has been your reaction to the controversy? What is your opinion about the issue?

- 22. Have you ever encountered people who thought and acted differently from you?** What view points have challenged you the most? How did you respond? What did you learn about yourself and about others?
- 23. What distresses you most about the world around you?** Assuming the obligation and opportunity to change the world, where would you start?
- 24. Do you have any current heroes or heroines?** Historical heroes?
- 25. What books have you read which have changed your way of thinking?**

Your personality and relationships with others

- 26. How would someone who knows you well describe you?** Your finest qualities? Your most conspicuous shortcomings? Would you agree with their assessment? How have you grown or changed during your high school years?



- 27. Which relationships are most important to you and why?** Describe the people whom you consider your best friends? Your best critics? Your best advocates? In what ways are they similar to or different from you?
- 28. Describe the groups in your school.** To which ones do you feel you belong? From which do you feel alienated? What kind of people do you associate with and admire? Generally, how do you respond to people who think and act differently from you?
- 29. How are you influenced by others who are important to you?** What pressures have you felt to conform? How important to you are rewards and recognition? How do you respond to pressure, competition, or challenge? How do you react to failure, disappointment, or criticism?
- 30. How do you feel about choices and making decisions for yourself?** What are the best decisions you have recently made? How much do you rely on direction, advice, or guidance from others? Have you ever chosen anything because it was new or interesting? What?

Tough Questions to answer in an Interview

Interview Questions/ General Information

A typical college interview lasts twenty to thirty minutes and usually opens with some warm-up questions. The interviewer will then probably move on to more surprising questions. Be prepared to answer questions about yourself, your school, your work. Practice answering these questions before your interview.

Warm-Up Questions:

Which subjects interest you most?

Which extracurricular activity is most rewarding to you?

How do you spend your spare time?

What kind of reading/books do you like best?

Why is a college education important?

What is your best quality?

More Challenging Questions:

What are your career plans?

Why do you want to go to this college?

What are your major weaknesses?

How can you overcome them?

Why were you selected or chosen for a specific award?

How have you prepared for college?

What would you change about yourself?

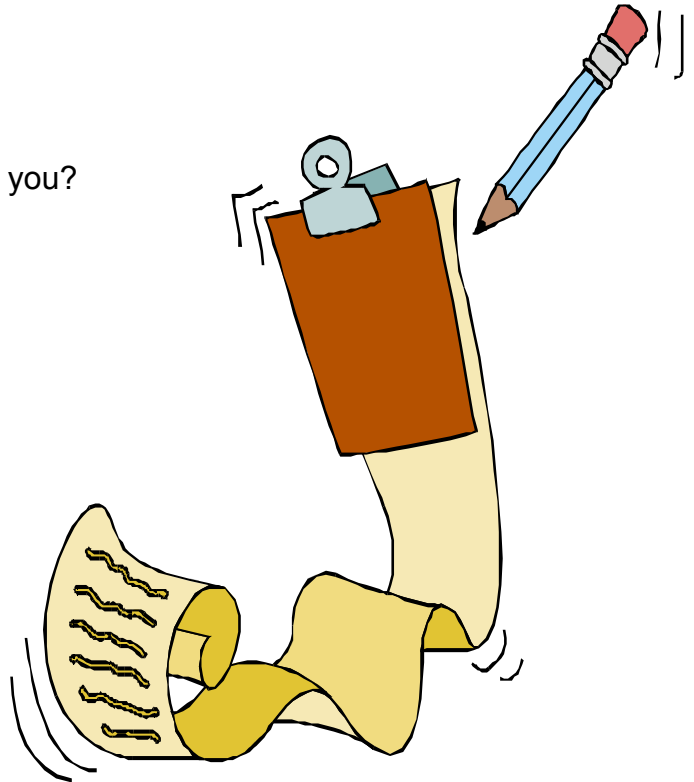
Surprise Questions:

If you suddenly decided not to go to college, what would you do instead? Why?

If you had a million-dollar grant to give away, who would get it? Why?

What have been the most important events in your life?

What's the one most important impression of yourself that you would want me to report to the admissions committee?



DON'T INTERRUPT THE INTERVIEWER, LISTEN TO EACH QUESTION, TAKE TIME TO THINK, AND ANSWER COMPLETELY WITHOUT RAMBLING.